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GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

Office of Research and Reports

Material for Office Estimates for

A. Statement of Objectives

The Geographic Research activity consists of: (a) program formulation, direction, and supervision for the Geographic Area and the coordination of geographic and map intelligence research and production within the IAC structure; (b) geographic research and analysis in support of clandestine planning, field operations, targeting, and unconventional warfare; analysis of border and territorial problems of significance to plans and policy; regional analysis in support of economic, scientific, and current intelligence programs of CIA; and production of mapping intelligence, including coordination and preparation of contributions to MIS Chapters I and IX; (c) cartographic and charting support to all components of the CIA and Department of State, and other appropriate intelligence agencies; (d) provision of full library reference service for maps, photomosaics, target charts, and map materials; and (e) coordination and staff support of an inter-agency foreign map and mapping photography procurement program.

B. Accomplishments (Current Year)

- 1. Approximately 145 geographic intelligence reports and other substantive intelligence items were produced in FY 1958 -- an increase of 20 percent over the previous year. The largest part of the research effort was devoted to direct support of other programs, as follows: clandestine operational planning (34%); the NIS program (15%); intelligence research programs of other government agencies (7%); and the intelligence research programs of other components of CIA (15%). An additional 20% was devoted to the surveillance and reporting of significant areal developments. As anticipated, support to operational planning centered on the production of unconventional warfare feasibility studies (35 completed). Attention was also devoted to intelligence research on Africa south of the Sahara, the polar areas, and Soviet IGY activities.
- 2. For the third consecutive year, all NIS commitments (Chapters IX and Sections 19 of Chapter I) were met.
- 3. Approximately 1,230 maps, charts, and other cartographic items were produced as, or in support of, finished intelligence. Over 500 additional maps connected with the NIS program were checked and processed for reproduction. Total work output increased more than 12% over FY 1957. A contract with the American Geographical Society to produce a 1:5,000,000 scale base map of the Asian Continent was initiated during the year.

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- 4. The coordination and staff supervision of the foreign map procurement program continued during the year with the acquisition of over 55,000 maps and 10,000 related publications. This was a slight increase over the number procured in Fiscal Year 1957. A new Geographic Attache position was established by the Department of State in Copenhagen and became operative late in the year. Domestic sources yielded over 2,000 maps and 350 publications.
- 5. Extraordinary steps were taken to improve U. S. holdings of large-scale Sino-Soviet Bloc maps. In coordination with the Military Services, a series of detailed collection guides were prepared and submitted to overt and covert collecting agencies.

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- 7. An additional 35,514 map sheets were processed and added to Agency holdings, representing a 40 percent increase over the previous year. The photomosaic and target chart collection increased 12½ percent to approximately 1,125,600 items. More than 133,335 maps and related publications were forwarded to Vital Storage during Fiscal Year 1958, including the replacement of obsolete editions.
- 8. Requests for map service reached more than 15,000, an increase of 15 percent over FY 1957.
- 9. Emphasis was placed on the enlargement of individual and unit capabilities through personal counseling and a directed program of new work experience. Training continued to emphasize improvement of production and management techniques.

C. Future Plans

Fiscal Year 1959

1. Research in support of unconventional warfare planning will be directed initially at the production of remaining area feasibility studies. As these are completed, the preparation of detailed studies of specific areas will be undertaken. Continued support will be given to special Agency projects, including current intelligence and estimates programs, and to the intelligence research programs of other IAC agencies. The NIS program will require increased support because of the demands of the new Chapter I Annual.

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- 2. Production of maps, charts, and other cartographic items will probably remain at a level comparable to that for Fiscal Year 1958. Special attention will be given to the development of new map-making techniques. It is expected that good progress will be realized on the 1:5,000,000 map series being prepared under external research contract.
- 3. Further coordination of foreign, domestic, and specialized map procurement programs will be emphasized. Plans have been developed with

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from the Sino-Soviet Bloc will be stressed on an inter-agency, coordinated basis. Stimulation of required aerial photography and mapping projects in strategic areas will be continued. Completion of all backlog map cataloging is expected in FY 1959.

4. Close attention will be given to the implementation of new production and management techniques and to the development of new research applications. Training will continue to emphasize the development of improved management and production capabilities.

Piscal Year 1960

- 1. Production of highly detailed unconventional warfare planning studies will take precedence over the general area feasibility studies. Additional research will be required in support of estimates and current reporting.
- 2. No change is anticipated in the production of maps, charts, and graphs, except for a slight increase in requests from the Department of State. The external contract for a 1:5,000,000 map of Asia will be completed during the year. Research in improved cartographic techniques will be emphasized.
- 3. With the continuance of a fully manned Geographic Attache system, attention will be given to the further refinement of covert foreign map procurement operations. Existing processing and reference activities will be maintained in conformance with community requirements.

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Geographic Research Completed, July 1957 - June 1958

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